Parallel Railway network

†456. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are making efforts to obtain huge amount from World Bank in order to construct a parallel railway network with that of roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rail project in A.P. with ADB loan

457. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the rail projects in Andhra Pradesh to be taken up with the Asian Development Bank Loan;

(b) by when the work of the projects would be taken up; and

(c) the target for completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a loan of US $ 313.6 million to finance the Rail Sector Improvement Project. Currently, the project of doubling of Gooty-Pullampet rail link in Andhra Pradesh has been appraised by ADB for funding under this loan.

(b) The work on the project has already been taken up.

(c) The project is likely to be completed in March 2008.

Contractor's men in pantry cars

458. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry treat the contractor's men in Railway 'pantry cars' as passengers on duty; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.